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AMENDMENT

In the Claims

48. (five times amended) A method for making antibodies to an epitope of a lipoprotein which reacts with the lipoprotein independently of lipid content and conformation of the lipoprotein, comprising

immunizing an animal with a desired apolipoprotein or lipoprotein which is delipidated, reduced, carboxymethylated, and solubilized with a reducing or denaturing agent, wherein all self-aggregated and degraded material has been removed from the delipidated, reduced, carboxymethylated, and solubilized apolipoprotein or lipoprotein.

49. (amended) The method of claim 48 further comprising

isolating the spleen from the immunized animals,

producing hybridomas from the spleen, and

screening the hybridomas for binding to the desired apolipoprotein or lipoprotein.

50. (twice amended) The method of claim 49 for making antibodies to ~~an~~ a desired apolipoprotein wherein the apolipoprotein is selected from the group consisting of Apo AI, Apo AII, Apo B, Apo CIII, and Apo E.

51. (amended) The method of claim 49 for making antibodies to a lipoprotein wherein the lipoprotein is selected from the group consisting HDL, LDL, and VLDL.